

Beauty and the bargain



● Trying it on — another satisfied customer finds a bargain at the Spastics Shop in Kilburn High Road. More about the special shop on Page 12.

'Thanks' mystery donor

WHEN Pearl Tyler looked at the package on her desk in the Donations Department at The Spastics Society's headquarters in London, she suspected that there was something strange about it. As departmental head all packages likely to contain large sums are opened by her, but it was a few days before Christmas and police warnings about letter bombs were uppermost in everyone's minds.

"As it was, when I began to unwrap it I thought it was one of those party games like 'pass the parcel' because there were so many layers," said Pearl.

Eventually she discovered a small box and opened it to find—£500 in notes. Accompanying the money was an unsigned letter explaining that the donor was sending the cash to "Help the ones in need."

The money was unregistered and unrecorded and the only clue to where it came from was the Bristol postmark on the outer wrapper. The writer, whose shaky

Continued on Page 12

£25,000 start to 1980 from Spastics Pool

A WONDERFUL way to start 1980 — with a Spastics Pool cheque for £25,000 in your pocket. . . .

The lucky man in the picture is Mr Frank Powles, of Great Cornard, Sudbury, Suffolk, and for him, the first dividend win on the Pool also came as the best possible retirement present. Dickie Henderson and Peggy Mount are shown congratulating Frank and his wife Olive on their good fortune, when the cheque presentation took place at the Stars Organisation for Spastics' residential centre for adults at Wakes Hall, near Colchester.

Frank, who before his retirement was employed as a driver at a local mill, will be visiting relatives in Australia soon.



Loving care



Employment



Staff training



FROM the top — the East Anglia Family Help Unit; Meadway Works, Birmingham; Castle Priory College, Wallingford. Just three of The Spastics Society's pioneering establishments. Turn to Page 6 for the full list.

Something new for Soho . . .

THE Spastics Society opened Soho's first charity shop in busy Wardour Street, just in time to catch some of the pre-Christmas shopping trade.

Attractively decorated as a boutique, the shop sells high class second-hand blouses, sweaters, coats and evening

dresses as well as a large selection of jewellery made by spastic men and women. There are also new books on offer at half price.

All the proceeds from the shop go to The Spastics Society's "Save a Baby" Campaign, which aims to stop the needless handicapping

Stories of achievement for the children of courage

THIS year's Special Achievement Award on January 30 will be one of the most moving and poignant since the Society first founded the award in 1972. As a tribute to the Year of the Child, all those nominated are children and all are desperately and incurably handicapped.

They range in age from the very young to mid-teens, live in all parts of Britain and Ireland, and all suffer almost overwhelming disability, and in many cases intense pain. Almost overwhelming disability — but not overwhelmed by it — for in the citations again and again are repeated phrases like: "He is so cheerful despite everything," "Her sunny nature and ready smile are a constant joy," "He never complains."

The citations come from doctors and deaconesses, priests and school teachers, neighbours, parents and brothers and sisters.

One mother wrote in about her daughter, born with a massive skin disease which causes constant blistering of the skin

she would live only another few days. At 14 she weighed just 19lb, and the end seemed near. But none of us took into account her tremendous will to live and once again she fought to live and I am so glad I still have my brave little daughter.

One 13-year-old lad born with a major crippling disease has no use in his legs. Nevertheless he swims and plays badminton, travels on his own using public transport and even climbed Rivington Pike — on his hands.

Courage is one of the most frequently used words in the nominations and

Continued on Page 9

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Why be a stay-at-home in 1980?

ALREADY many people have booked a package tour holiday for the 1980 holiday season and the Recreational Services Department of The Spastics Society provides spastic people with a similar opportunity. Over 400 people were catered for on a total of 21 holidays in 1979, which demonstrates the popularity of the service.

A package tour holiday is not just a week of transitory fun, but has more enduring benefits. It provides a necessary break from the home or centre — both for the handicapped individual and for those who care for him — the opportunity to discover new places, experiences and friends, the incentive to increase independence and the chance



to accumulate a wealth of happy memories.

A wide choice of holiday venues and price ranges is offered. In 1980 an eight day tour to Einsiedeln, Switzerland, will cost £211.50, but an activity holiday in Cornwall will cost only £77 for a week. Whether you enjoy relaxing by a swimming pool, the vigorous exertion of rock climbing or the convivial atmosphere of a

holiday camp, there is a holiday to suit you.

Holidays are open to spastic adults over the age of 16. Each holiday party is carefully selected to include people of different degrees of handicap — both ambulant and wheelchair users — and usually two needing total care. With each group there is a party leader, a nurse and a number of helpers — usually police cadets — who

give any assistance required and this is at no extra cost to the holidaymakers.

The costs of the tour staff and helpers are met by The Spastics Society, which in 1979 paid out a record sum of £18,278. It cannot afford to pay more so, if prices continue to rise, the number of holidays which the Society will be able to subsidise will grow less. We ask

SIPPING drinks at a pavement cafe, watching the rest of the world go by — a party of disabled holidaymakers enjoy the opportunity of congenial company in pleasant surroundings on a continental holiday organised by The Spastics Society.

local groups to sponsor helpers for holidaymakers from their areas. The average cost of a helper on a tour last year was £90. In 1980 this is likely to rise by 25 per cent or more to £112 upwards.

Applications from volunteer holiday helpers are always welcome and these may be from people who wish to accompany a spastic friend as their helper.

Individuals wishing to obtain a holiday brochure and application form, local groups interested in sponsoring a holiday helper and volunteers, should contact:

The Holiday Officer, Recreational Services Department, The Spastics Society, 2A Conway Street, London W1P 5HE.

World congress in Canada

RADAR is offering special travel and accommodation arrangements for UK delegates to the World Rehabilitation Congress in Canada next summer. An extra three to five days sight-seeing in the Rocky Mountains can be added to the trip and longer stays are available on request.

For the International Congress at the Winnipeg Convention Centre from June 23 to 27, 1980, the inclusive rate of a seven-day visit will be around £279 per person. This price includes air fare and hotel accommodation. The outward journey is on June 21 and the return trip on June 28.

Delegates wishing to attend one or more of the pre-congress seminars will find travel opportunities available for these events as well. A number of variations are available and adaptable for individuals and party groups. The associated meetings will be held over the week of June 15-19 in locations as distant as Toronto, Vancouver, Kingston and Winnipeg, and cover rehabilitation interests in vocational rehabilitation, medicine, education, social care, organisation and administration and rehabilitation engineering.

In the interval between the end of a seminar and the beginning of the Congress there is the opportunity for delegates to visit Calgary and Banff in the Rocky Mountains region. Costs for these 'excursions' vary according to the point of departure.

For those who wish to see one of the great cities of the New World a four-day trip to Montreal is available.

Prices mentioned are subject to variations in air fares, hotel charges and exchange rates. They may, however, be taken as a fair indication of final costs.

Further information from: The Royal Association for Disability and Rehabilitation (International Department), 25 Mortimer Street, London, W1N 8AB. Telephone 01-637 5400, extension 222.

Shoppers boosted narrow boat appeal

DURING the 1979 International Year of the Child, Reckitt and Colman's Pharmaceutical Division — makers of Dettol — joined forces with Woolworths to raise £10,000 to purchase and specially equip a narrow boat for the Peter Le Marchant Trust, which provides free trips for the handicapped — mainly children — on inland waterways in the Midlands.

The money was raised through the Dettol Charity Challenge Scheme, in which five well-known personalities linked themselves with various charities to raise £50,000 to fulfil five selected projects. For the Trust, Dettol and Woolworths — supported by top radio personality Pete Murray — raised the necessary funds by donating 10p for every large bottle of Dettol sold in Woolworths until the target was reached. It was found the public were prepared to help when they could see that their money was going directly to a worthwhile cause.

The Trust has its origins in a request by Peter Le Marchant to his sister Clare Hammer. Clare's concern was to enable all groups of the physically and mentally handicapped — and those seriously ill — to enjoy the peace and beauty of the English countryside in a leisurely way. Cruises on inland waterways through the heart of England seemed a perfect way of offering them a complete change. The acquisition of the new boat means that many children who otherwise would not have had the opportunity will now be able to enjoy canal trips and holidays.

A sister "ship" to the Trust's "Symphony," "Sonata" is an open plan boat with a hydraulic lift for easy access of wheelchairs. She is equipped for cruising with a large walk-in (or wheel-in) toilet and shower compartment, good seating, large low windows and a fully fitted



● DOUG Dagnall, Clare Hammer and Norman Thomason give a helping hand to Mark Furness of the Ashley School, Cotgrave, near Nottingham, as he takes a trip on the new boat.

galley, including a refrigerator for the storage of medicines and food. There is hot and cold running water and, with full central heating, the boat can be used throughout the winter. Life jackets and first aid equipment are always carried and there is a radio telephone so that any emergency situation can be handled.

"Sonata" was formally handed over to the Trust by Mr Norman Thomason, marketing director of Reckitt and Colman Pharmaceutical Division, and Mr Doug Dagnall of Woolworths. Also hoping to attend the ceremony were a host of local dignitaries, including the Lord-Lieutenant of Leicestershire, Colonel R. A. St G. Martin. On the day, a group of handicapped children from Ashley School at Cotgrave, near Nottingham, were taken on a special trip on "Sonata."

'My story' —by a holiday helper

A BOUQUET for The Spastics Society and an encouragement to others to follow suit appeared in the Nursing Mirror when nurse Elaine Stewart, recounted her experience as a holiday helper.

As a third-year student at the South West College of Nursing and Midwifery at Dumfries she had eight weeks holiday and very little money. Her first thought was a holiday job, but an advertisement for holiday help in the Nursing press, she decided, was a more rewarding prospect. Helpers would be paid their travelling expenses, board and lodging but would not receive salary.

So Elaine took the job as party nurse for a week's holiday at Clacton organised by The Spastics Society. 'I anticipated that the holiday would be hard work but great fun — and that is exactly what it was,' she said.

She arrived early at the Society's Family Services Centre in Fitzroy Square, London, and was immediately roped in to act as escort for holidaymakers arriving by train. As accommodation was already overstretched she took a party to a hotel which was supposedly adapted for the disabled.

Here she discovered that the techniques for lifting taught in hospital do not apply when it comes to lifting wheelchairs, plus occupants, out of cramped taxis and up flights of stairs. It was with some relief the following day, that she found six male police cadets on hand at Fitzroy Square to do the lifting required.

Miss Stewart's nursing responsibilities covered a party of 28 holidaymakers but in actual fact she discovered very little nursing was required. The holidaymakers in all but two or three cases looked after their own medications; staff meetings every morning ironed out any problems and the days at Butlin's followed an easy going routine.

Miss Stewart concludes: 'I feel we all learned a great deal about handicapped people and their problems, and the difficulties in pushing wheelchairs in such an environment. The helper really learns to appreciate ramps and lowered pavement edges. I hope to go on this kind of trip again.'

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● **THE Duchess of Kent** addresses the guests at the unveiling of the special plaque designed by Mr Leslie Crowther, vice-chairman of SOS. After the unveiling ceremony, Miss Sylvia Syms, a past chairman of the Management Committee of Good Neighbours House, read out the dedication. Also in the picture are, left to right, Mrs Sheila Rawsthorne, Director of SOS; the Mayor and Mayoress of Southwark; and the Lady Anne Tennant, SOS President.

Duchess of Kent at SOS centre

A star-studded welcome for their Royal visitor

THE residents of Good Neighbours House in Camberwell, London, run by the Stars Organisation for Spastics, welcomed a Royal visitor in December when the Duchess of Kent, Patron of The Spastics Society, attended the official opening. One of the residents, Mrs Oriel Philpotts, presented the Duchess with a bouquet to mark the delightfully gay and informal occasion which, it is hoped, was the first of many friendly visits by the Duchess.

Reception

Greeting the Duchess on her arrival were the Lady Anne Tennant, President of SOS; past-Presidents The Countess of Westmorland and the Hon Mrs James Ogilvy; Miss Sylvia Syms, past-Chairman of the Good Neighbours House management committee and Mr Adrian Love, newly elected Chairman of the committee. Special guests included the Mayor and Mayoress of Southwark, Mr and Mrs Peter Cather, Mr James Loring, Director of The Spastics Society, and Mr Douglas Arter, Honorary Life Member of SOS.

Good Neighbours House has in fact been "home" for the 26 residents, four of whom are married couples, ever since 1976. The home is situated on a local housing estate and the shop and laundrette



● **MEMBERS** of the management committee of Good Neighbours House who met the Duchess included Joan Regan, Dennis Lotis and Steve Emerson.

which are run by the residents themselves are used by the whole community.

One of the residents to meet the Duchess, Mrs Janet Fazackerley, who manages the shop, commented, "This place is very good because it's a sort of community. Other places I know feel a bit cut off from the rest of the public. Here I think people can see that although we are handicapped, we can still contribute to the community."

The laundrette and the shop were visited by the Duchess accompanied by Lady Tennant, Miss Syms and Mr Love together with Mrs Elizabeth Mitchellmore-Hawkins, manager of Good Neighbours House.

Residents were thrilled to meet and talk with the Duchess in their own

rooms, before the Royal visitor went downstairs for the unveiling of a special plaque designed by Mr Leslie Crowther, a Vice-President of SOS.

Other SOS personalities present included Mr David Jacobs, Mr and Mrs Brian Rix, and Mrs Anthony Quayle, who represented her husband, Chairman of SOS, as he was in the United States working on a TV series.

Guests for tea included the many people who had donated gifts in cash or kind to the centre, local publicans who had raised money, as well as representatives of the local police.

The Duchess eventually departed in the late afternoon after a memorable visit for all those who work for and live in Good Neighbours House.



● **AMONGST** the guests at the official opening of Good Neighbours House were Mr Robert Knight, deputy hon treasurer, and Miss Muriel Pavlov, an SOS Vice-President.



● **THE Duchess** shares a joke with three SOS Vice-Presidents, Diane Hart, Maudie Edwards and Peggy Cummins.

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STACY Coleman of Hemlington, Yorkshire, and her mother, Mavis, with the collecting box and, of course, the plaster cast.

Signing-up Stacy

MAVIS Coleman has come up with a brilliant idea to take some of the drag out of operations for her five-year-old daughter Stacy who is spastic. Stacy has just had an Achilles tendon operation, and was dreading the next, when her mother suggested that her plaster cast was put to fund raising.

"To cheer Stacy up I decided to ask relatives and

friends to autograph her plaster and give something towards a £6,000 appeal for an extension at the Cleveland spastics work centre in Middlesbrough," she said. "So far she's raised more than £4, and now Stacy feels that having the plaster on is worthwhile. She plans to do the same with the other plaster when the time comes."

Picture by Evening Gazette, Middlesbrough

These days, it's vital to know your rights

RAPIDLY rising prices and cutbacks in community services are making accurate welfare rights information even more essential for disabled people and those caring for and working with them. The latest edition of the Disability Rights Handbook, just published, is the biggest and most detailed yet. It will be updated quarterly with Bulletins in order to keep claimants and their advisers informed of changes in policy and legislation.

The Handbook describes existing benefits for disabled people and low income families, and how to calculate entitlement to them. It explains the procedures for appealing against unsatisfactory decisions, the best way to prepare for appeal tribunals, and how to make a complaint to the Ombudsman for maladministration. The Handbook also outlines the statutory duties of local authorities to provide services in the social services, in housing and employment. Part 2 includes articles on reforms needed to strengthen the

rights of disabled people, and Part 3 lists the names and addresses of some 400 helpful voluntary organisations.

The Disability Rights Handbook for 1980 costs 80p plus 20p postage and

packing, and is available from The Disability Alliance, 1 Cambridge Terrace, London NW1. A subscription to rights information — made up of the Handbook and three Bulletins — costs £3.30.



WHEN pub entertainer Alan Hayman from Chard sits down at the piano he plays with a purpose—to provide pleasure for the customers, himself and for the handicapped children who benefit from the money he raises.

In spite of being handi-

capped himself — Alan's middle fingers are joined or half joined on each hand — he has raised over £100 in the past three months for the Chard and South Somerset Association for Spastics and Handicapped, as well as playing the piano at the monthly children's parties.

1981—the planning begins

A UNIQUE conference, entitled "Towards '81" will take place at Goldsmiths' College, London, over the weekend of April 18-20, 1980. A group of young people aged 15-19 will gather from various parts of the UK to discuss and plan local community projects for the International Year for Disabled Persons 1981.

Delegates will explore problems related to the transition "From School to What?" including understanding and influencing the local community. Ideas and initiatives from this conference will then be presented by the delegates to their local communities for action in 1981.

It is hoped that the young people attending the conference will form the nucleus of volunteer groups to co-operate with local organisations and employers on projects associated with the International Year. The conference has been organised by a number of voluntary bodies to act as a link between the International Year of the Child and the Year for Disabled Persons. Delegates will be drawn from both able-bodied and handicapped young people, with a programme which includes lectures, discussion groups and group work sessions.

Further details and application forms are available from Mrs Sue Miller, Conference Co-ordinator, "Towards '81," c/o The Spastics Society, 16 Fitzroy Square, London W1P 5HQ. Tel 01-387 9571.

Keep up the good work.



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New friends of the family

Social contacts, mutual help for families

WORKING in close partnership with voluntary organisations such as The Spastics Society is an important part of her job, says Noreen Miller, of Contact a Family.

For the past four years Contact a Family has been pioneering the setting-up of local self-help groups for families with a handicapped child, giving these families the opportunity to take a more active part in the life of their own community.

Films

A recently-made Contact a Family film shows how families in Wandsworth, with the help of a full-time paid worker have enjoyed a variety of social and supportive activities. These have included weekly coffee mornings and evenings; fortnightly Saturday afternoon family clubs; play schemes in the school holidays; regular family outings and social events; a weekly swimming club; family holidays away from London, as well as a home visiting scheme, set up in close liaison with the local health and social services, and intended to help families with newly born or recently assessed handicapped children.

One Wandsworth mother commented: "We never used to go out anywhere. Now life is hectic. In fact, some of our friends with normal children are envious of us, as we're always going off somewhere and doing interesting things."

In Wandsworth, for example, there isn't a local



"GETTING to know you" — on a very localised neighbourhood basis is what the Contact a Family project is about. Meeting another family living nearby who also have a handicapped child is a valuable experience especially for people who are not natural

Special report by Nancy Tuft

spastics group to join in the immediate neighbourhood and social worker Val Rosanbeau, who works for The Spastics Society, is only too pleased to be able to work alongside Contact a Family's Director Noreen Miller and her community worker Boz Borowy.

Some parents with a handicapped child are natural joiners of existing voluntary organisations — others are not, and this is why Contact a Family aims to go out and reach families in the immediate vicinity through special schools, social services and health visitors, as well as through the local branches of organisations which cater for a specific handicap who might not have sufficient members living near each other to form a neighbourhood group.

No rivalry

"It's important that we're not seen as rivals," says Noreen Miller. "Contact a Family is for children with any type of handicap whether mild or severe, mental or physical, and our activities include non-handicapped brothers and sisters as well."

The Contact a Family film of the pilot project in Wandsworth sparked off a

great deal of interest in other parts of the country and Devizes and Lewisham are two contrasting areas where Contact a Family groups are in the early stages of being set up.

Cash

In the four years of Contact a Family's existence, the organisation has had to weather one finan-

cial crisis after another. Contact a Family was grant-aided for the first two years by the DHSS and its original sponsor was the charity Make Children Happy.

In Wandsworth, the local authority back the full-time worker, and it was only recent public expenditure cuts in Lambeth which prevented a similar situation happening there.



CONTACT a Family Director Noreen Miller, with community worker Boz Borowy, accompanied by Steve Burton, one of the trustees, were interested visitors to The Spastics Society stand at a recent exhibition. Noreen and

Boz already work in close co-operation with one of the Society's social workers, while Steve, who suffers from cerebral palsy and who is a lawyer, recently negotiated a grant for Contact a Family from The Spastics Society.



Yet there are an estimated 1,000 families in Lambeth with a handicapped child.

However The Spastics Society has come to the rescue with a grant of £1,000 to Contact a Family, negotiated by one of its trustees, Steve Burton, a lawyer who suffers from cerebral palsy himself.

Contact a Family is rather like a newborn at risk baby struggling to survive and this extra assistance made available at a crucial time may make all the difference to its healthy growth and development.

CONTACT a Family encourages group activities like this Saturday afternoon family club held in the premises of the Handicapped Adventure Playgrounds Association at Wandsworth. Toy library facilities are provided for the children while parents can get together for shared support.

★ ★ ★

Inquiries regarding the hire of the Contact a Family film should be made to Noreen Miller, Contact a Family, 31 Tooley Street, London SE1. Tel 01-403 0969.

January cookery

ROAST FORE RIB

(with roast potatoes, baked onions, parsnips and Yorkshire pudding and accompanied by Brussels sprouts)

10lb Fore rib home-produced beef on the bone; 3oz dripping or lard; salt and pepper; potatoes, as required; parsnips, as required; onions, as required; dripping or lard for the potatoes; 1oz dripping for the Yorkshire pudding. Yorkshire pudding: ¼ pint milk; 4oz plain flour; one British egg; pinch of salt.

Wipe the meat and sprinkle all surfaces with salt and pepper. Place in a roasting tin and dot with dripping or lard. Place on centre shelf in pre-heated oven and cook at 375 deg F, Mark 5, 190 deg C, allowing 20 minutes to the pound and 20 minutes over. For those who like their meat well done cook an extra 20-25 minutes.

One and three-quarter hours before end of cooking time, prepare number of parsnips required. Peel thinly and halve or quarter. Place on foil, season, dot with butter and make into a secure parcel. Prepare the number of onions needed, season, dot with butter and make them into another parcel. Put in shallow roasting tin on shelf immediately under the beef. At the same time put some dripping in the roasting tin to melt.

Parboil potatoes for five minutes, drain and coat in the melted dripping and cook with the other vegetables.

Make the Yorkshire pudding by sieving flour and salt into a bowl. Mix egg into the milk. Make a well in the centre of the flour and with a wooden spoon beat in the milk-egg mixture, beating until all is smooth. Cover and leave in a cold place to rest.

Twenty-five minutes before end of beef's cooking time transfer vegetables to floor of oven, remove beef to the lower shelf, and place small patty tins containing dripping in 8-10 of them on the top shelf. Beat the Yorkshire batter once more and put into the hot dripping in the patty tins. Cook at 425 deg F, Mark 7, 220 deg C, for 20 minutes.

Meanwhile, cook the Brussels sprouts. Lower oven to lowest setting to keep everything warm. Transfer meat to a serving dish. Drain off surplus fat from roasting tin and use pan juice and water from the Brussels sprouts to make a gravy. Unwrap vegetable 'parcels'.

SYLLABUB (serves 6-8)

Two dessertspoons red currant jelly; two egg whites; ½ pint fresh double cream; 2oz caster sugar; ¼ pint white wine; grated rind of one orange.

Beat the cream with the wine and sugar. Stir in almost all of the rind. Spoon the mixture into tall glasses or a large bowl. Beat the egg whites and the red currant jelly together until stiff and spoon this on top of the wine and cream. Sprinkle with the remaining rind and serve with macaroons or shortbread fingers if desired.

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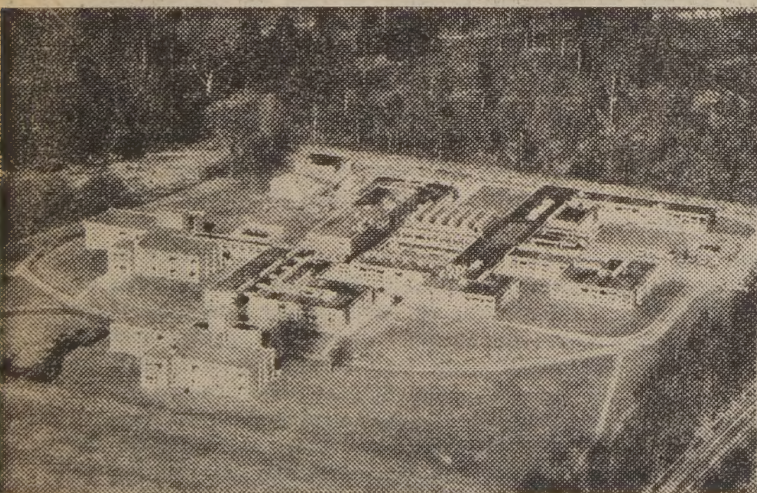
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DENE COLLEGE, Shipbourne Road, Tonbridge, Kent TN11 9NT.

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GRANGEWOOD RESIDENTIAL CENTRE, High Street, Kelvedon, Essex CO5 9AG.

20, 17+.



● PRINCESS MARINA CENTRE

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COOMBE FARM, Oaks Road, Croydon, Surrey CR9 5AR.

42, 16+.

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BASINGSTOKE ADULT HOUSE UNIT, Roman House, Winklebury Way, Basingstoke, Hants RG23 8BJ.

25, 16+.

CARDIFF ADULT HOUSE Unit, Bryn Avel, 127 Cyncoed Road, Cardiff, Glamorgan.

14, 16+.

CYNCOED FLATS, 127 Cyncoed Road, Cardiff, Glamorgan.

6 couples, 16+.

HARPENDEN ADULT HOUSE UNIT, Redclyffe, 21 Salisbury Avenue, Harpenden, Herts AL5 2QF.

26, 16+.

KINGSTON ADULT HOUSE UNIT, 11 Lingfield Avenue, Kingston-upon-Thames, Surrey KT1 2TL.

12, 16+.

NORTHAMPTON ADULT HOUSE UNIT, Hampton House, Tonmead Road, Lumbertubs, Northampton NN3 4JX.

26, 16+.



● BIRMINGHAM HOSTEL

HOSTELS

BIRMINGHAM HOSTEL, Broadstones Road, Off Meadway, Sheldon, Birmingham 26.

80, 18 to retirement age.
BRISTOL HOSTEL, Elphick House, 180 Ashley Down Road, Bristol 7, Avon.

7, 18+.
CHESTER HOSTEL, 5 Newton Lane, Hoole, Chester, Cheshire CH2 3RB.

9, 18+.
EASTCOTE HOSTEL, 8 Sunningdale Avenue, Eastcote, Ruislip, Middlesex.

8, 18+.
HALIFAX HOSTEL, Heathbank, Linden Road, Halifax, West Yorkshire HX3 0BS.

13, 18+.
NORWICH HOSTEL, 403 Unthank Road, Norwich, Norfolk.

9, 18+.
PENARTH HOSTEL, Mena House, 78 Victoria Road, Penarth, South

Glamorgan CF6 2HZ.

13, 18+.

ROCKINGHAM HOSTEL, Greenside Lane, Greasborough, Rotherham, South Yorkshire S61 4PT.

12, 16+.

SOUTHAMPTON HOSTEL, Merlyn House, West End Road, Southampton, Hants.

13, 16+.

SWANSEA HOSTEL, Ynyswern, 94 Newton Road, Mumbles, Swansea, West Glamorgan.

10, 18+.

THORNTON HEATH HOSTEL, 215 Melfort Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey.

4, bed-sitting accommodation.

WOODFORD HOSTELS, 6 Snakes Lane, Woodford Green, Essex IG8 0BS.

23, 18+.

64 Glengall Road, Woodford Green, Essex IG8 0DL.

7, 18+.



● BEDFONT HOTEL

HOTELS

THE BEDFONT HOTEL, Marine Parade, Clacton-on-Sea, Essex.

25, all ages.

THE GARWOOD HOTEL, 8 Victoria Drive, Bognor Regis, Sussex PO21 2RJ.

16, all ages.

FIELD STUDIES AND ADVENTURE HOLIDAY CENTRE
CHURCHTOWN FARM, Lanlivery, Bodmin, Cornwall.

24-40, all ages.

STAFF TRAINING COLLEGE

CASTLE PRIORY COLLEGE, Thames Street, Wallingford, Oxon OX10 0HE.

38.

FAMILY HELP UNIT
EAST ANGLIA FAMILY HELP UNIT, Shakers Lane, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk.

15, 1 month-16 years.

SHORT STAY CENTRE FOR ADULTS
CHILTERN HOUSE, Hill Top Road, Oxford OX4 1PH.

8, 14+.



● COLWALL COURT HOTEL

● Continued next page



MR Kenneth Long, centre, Chairman and Managing Director of Top Ten Promotions, presenting a first dividend Pool cheque for £4,166 to publican Wilfred

Button and his wife Audrey, of the Lamb Inn, Clandown, Radstock. Said Audrey, "We have never won anything in our lives before, it is the most marvellous surprise."



MR and Mrs E. Coxon, of Langholm in Dumfrireshire, receiving a first dividend Spastics Pool cheque for £8,333 from the manager of the Bank of Scotland, Mr Anderson (left).

Both Mr and Mrs Coxon are employed at a local engineering firm and they intend buying a car for their eldest daughter, and investing the rest of the money.



MAYOR of Gloucester, Gordon Williams, presenting a first dividend cheque for £8,333 to Mrs Maureen

Griffiths, of Gloucester. Married with two children, Maureen is employed as a nurse at the Gloucester Royal Hospital.

Society list

Continued from Page 6

WORK CENTRES

ABBOTS LANGLEY WORK CENTRE, Off Jacketts Field, Abbots Langley, Watford, Herts WD5 0PA.

55, 16 upwards.

CHESTER WORK CENTRE, Western Avenue, Off Saughall Road, Blacon, Chester, Cheshire.

45, 16 upwards.

CHINGFORD WORK CENTRE, Miriam Harris Work Centre, Weale Road, Chingford, London E4 6JL.

50, 16 upwards.

NORTH MANCHESTER WORK CENTRE, Victoria Avenue, East, Blackley, Manchester M9 2HZ.

50, 16 upwards.

PLYMOUTH WORK CENTRE, Eric Robinson Work Centre, Hartley Road, Plymouth, Devon PL3 5LP.

30, 16 upwards.

SHEFFIELD WORK CENTRE, Cockshutts Lane, Oughtibridge, Nr Sheffield, South Yorkshire S30 3FX.

60, 16 upwards.

SULLY WORK CENTRE, Hayes Road, Sully, Nr Penarth, South Glamorgan CF6 2SE.

65, 16 upwards.

INDUSTRIAL TRAINING CENTRE, SHERRARDS, Digswell Hill, Welwyn, Herts AL6 9AW.

66, 16 upwards.

HOMEWORK SECTION, Perth Road, Wood Green, London N22.

SHELTERED WORKSHOP, MEADWAY WORKS, Garretts Green Lane, Birmingham B33 9SQ.

100, 16 upwards.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT UNIT, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT UNIT B1, Liddington Estate, Leekhampton Road, Cheltenham, Glos GL53 0DL.

More prize money, more for charity

A NEW scheme to boost prize money and provide funds for charity will be launched early in 1980. Called "Select 4," it will be based on the Spastics Pool dividend structure and fixed odds.

For 15p per entry, clients will receive a ticket, on which they enter four different numbers between 01 and 70, relating to the Saturday's football matches, in exactly the same way as Spastics Pool membership numbers. The buyer retains a counterfoil for recording the four number selection; a match list will be available for anyone purchasing tickets, and results will be published in a national newspaper.

Tickets, in sheets of four, will be on sale every week through agents who will

News about the Spastics Pool

receive 12½ per cent commission.

"Select 4" clients will not qualify for the benefits associated with Spastics Pool membership, for example, Ninetree Gifts' vouchers, special competitions, accident insurance, travel and photographic services. However, charity will benefit by a further 1½p over and above the usual one-seventh charitable donation.

"It is inevitable that 'Select 4' will be compared with lotteries," commented Roy Laver, Director, Top Ten Promotions. "First of all, there is a one-off sale of tickets. Secondly, and most importantly, clients

purchasing 'Select 4' tickets will stand a weekly chance of winning £10,000 for only 15p, which is substantially more than the maximum of £1,000 available through lotteries at 20p or 25p a ticket."

Apart from boosting dividend prize money, "Select 4" will increase awareness of the Spastics Pool amongst the general public and attract new collectors.



MR Tom Stone, of Bridge-mary, Gosport, Hampshire, receiving a "Starball" cheque for £5,000 from the Mayor of Gosport, Mr Don Dimmer, at the Town Hall.

Tom is considering taking a trip to Switzerland to celebrate. Presentation arrangements were made by the Spastics Pool's area supervisor, Mike Carpenter (centre).

Top sportswoman for Disabled Olympiad

THE Spastics Society's Disabled Sportswoman of the Year, 33-year-old Mrs Mary Goddard, of Taunton, has been selected for the 1980 Disabled Olympiad.

In previous years the Disabled Olympiad has followed the able bodied Olympic games. But Moscow has been unable to host the event, so Mary Goddard will represent Britain at Arnhem next June. She will concentrate on the shot and discus events.

Mary is the first ever holder of the Sportswoman of the Year Award which was introduced in 1979 by The Spastics Society's physical education adviser, Mr Arthur Edwards. Holder of the Sportsman of the Year title is Mr Norman Burns.

At the British Games held in the autumn at the Society's Thomas Delarue

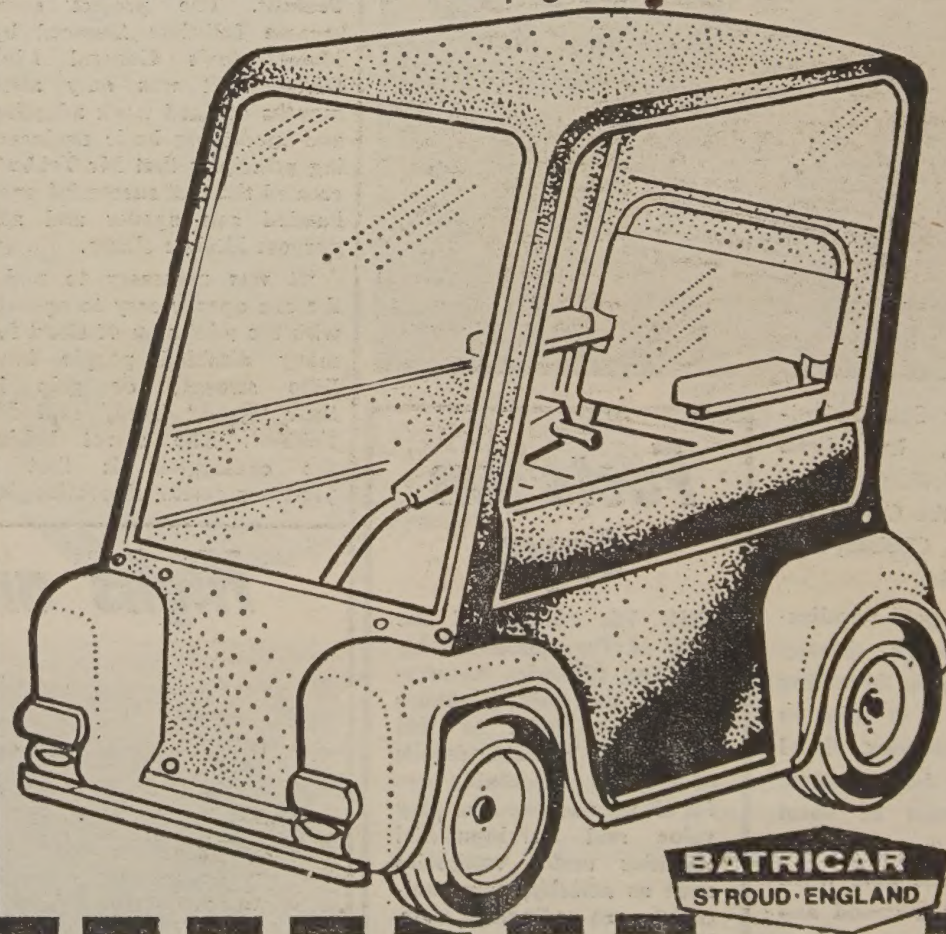
School in Tonbridge, where she was sponsored by the Taunton Deane Spastics Society, Mary made four maximum scores; in club throwing, table tennis, javelin and rifle shooting. She represented England at the International Spastics Games held in Germany.

Mary trains at Sydenham Sports Centre, Bridgewater, every Monday evening with the Somerset team. When she heard the news of her selection for the Disabled Olympiad, Mary, who has a daughter at school, said: "It is such an honour. I still can't believe it."

For many years only paraplegics were allowed to compete in what was then known as the Wheelchair Olympics. Now the International Sports Organisation has amended the rules so that contestants with other physical handicaps are able to compete at Olympic level.

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Briefing...

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to help you and your family



DAVID Owens, tutor in farm studies at The Spastics Society's Churchtown Farm Field Studies Centre, Lanlivery, pictured above with course students, is planning a spring symposium on "The Use of Land, Farming and Animals in Special Education." The aim is to explore ways in which the land surrounding so many schools and residential centres can be used to best advantage.

Subjects covered on the

course, which is provisionally planned for March 8-12, will include stock care and maintenance, the use of rare breeds, laws and regulations regarding the keeping of animals, as well as the setting up and running of a nature reserve.

Inquiries regarding the course should be sent to David Owens, Tutor in Farm Studies, Churchtown Farm Field Studies Centre, Lanlivery, Bodmin, Cornwall. Telephone Lostwithiel 872148.

His answer to a challenge

AN ingenious 'helping hand' for the disabled has been designed and developed by Metal Box, which launched this one-handed can opener at the recent Naidex.

A simple but highly effective and versatile vice is fixed to a working surface giving more independence to people who have lost the use of one hand. The clamp acts as a strong and secure hand gripping anything from a can of baked beans to a loaf of bread.

Designer Charles Tebbutt invented what he refers to as a "tool" for the disabled after accepting a challenge from an occupational therapist friend to help the handicapped.

'I joined my local branch of REMAP (Rehabilitation Engineering Movement Advisory Panels) and heard about plans to try and produce a one-handed can opener which really worked. As I had spent my life designing for Europe's largest packaging manufacturer I felt I had the knowledge and experience to do the job,' explains Mr Tebbutt. The project soon became full-time financed by Metal Box's General Line Division. It was only after months of hard work adapting and modifying basic engineering principles that Mr Tebbutt created the first successful one-handed can opener and all-purpose kitchen clamp.

'It was necessary to make the can opener easy to operate with the minimum of effort for many disabled people have little strength or grip in their "good" hand,' said Mr Tebbutt. The secret behind the can-opener is that it pierces a series of overlapping

TV focus on 'The Handicapped Family'

"THE Handicapped Family" is a new series of BBC1 television programmes starting on Sunday, January 6, 1980, at 10.30 am. There are five 25-minute programmes in all, with repeats starting on Monday, February 11, 1980, at 10.30 am on BBC2.

The series attempts to show how problems can be minimised by making full use of the statutory services, claiming financial benefits, obtain-

ing aids and joining voluntary organisations. Whilst exposing problems and difficulties, the series also shows ways in which families have organised themselves to be able to cope successfully.

Free leaflets giving details of entitlements and how to contact members of the caring professions, statutory services and voluntary organisations are available from "The Handicapped Family," BBC Television, London W12 8QT, on receipt of a self-addressed envelope.

Guide to sporting life

A NEW guide aimed at increasing opportunities for disabled people to take part in sport and recreation has just been published.

Compiled jointly by the Sports Council and the Disabilities Study Unit and published by the Royal Association for Disability and Rehabilitation, the guide is the first of its kind and provides a county by county breakdown of facilities available for disabled people in major community sports centres throughout England.

The book has been produced in response to the increasing numbers of disabled people taking part in sport and recreation and it is hoped that it will give fresh impetus to the drive to encourage all sports centres to provide adequate access and suitable facilities for disabled people.

In addition to listing sports facilities on offer, the guide also gives information on coaching and club activities as well as the accessibility of amenities such as changing rooms, toilets, lifts and parking. It also features design recommendations for those concerned with the provision of facilities, produced by the Sports Council's Technical Unit for Sport.

'Sports Centres and the Disabled - An access guide to sports centres in England' - is available from the Royal Association for Disability and Rehabilitation, price 75p.

Hear about the pictures

SPECIAL facilities have been arranged at London's Royal Academy for disabled visitors to the highly-praised Post Impressionism exhibition.

Audio tours of the exhibition have been prepared by the Royal Academy, and so that those with partial hearing can take the tour, special headsets are available. Disabled visitors in wheelchairs and their companions can both take the tour for the price of one. Listened to by the visitor who carries his own cassette machine, the tour begins with an introduction by Sir Hugh Casson, President of the Royal Academy, and then continues to discuss highlights of the exhibition, which includes more than 430 paintings.

Adults' tour 50p; special tour for young people 25p. The exhibition continues until March 16.

USA visitors

A 16-PAGE directory listing 298 rehabilitation facilities in the United States which welcome foreign and American professional visitors is now available.

The major purpose of the 1979-80 Host Directory is to make it easier for the visitor to make the proper arrangements well in advance.

The 1979-1980 directory is free on request from addresses outside the United States. Write to: Host Directory, Rehabilitation International USA, 20 West 40 Street, New York, NY 10018, USA.



SAM, short for Sound Activated Monkey, has been developed by Mediscus in co-operation with the Centre for Spastic Children, Chelsea, as a speech therapy aid.

SAM encourages vocalisation during speech therapy sessions, encourages breathing exercises and it is of value in group therapy sessions. SAM also enables the deaf to assess visually the result of vocal effort.

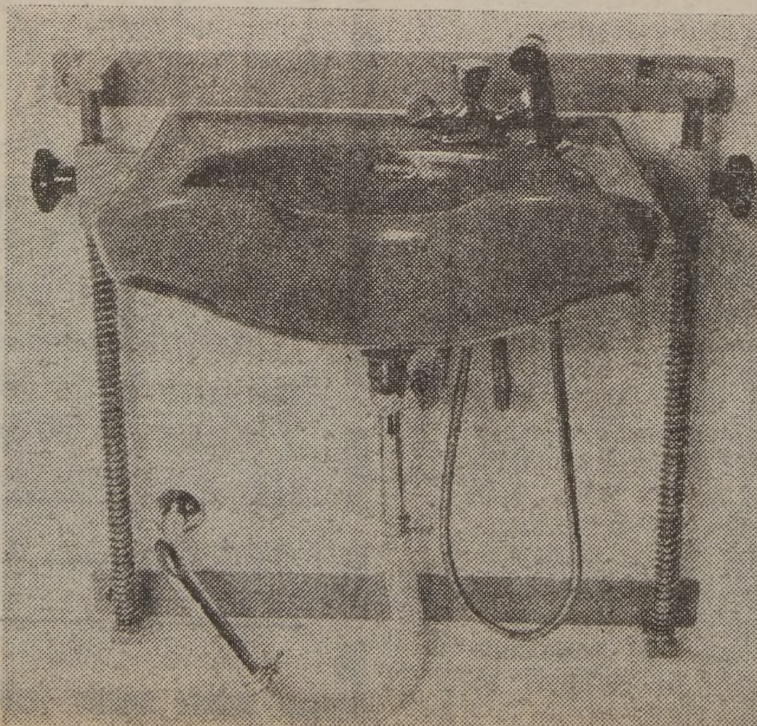
SAM climbs the pole when the child makes a sound and the level of sound required to activate him can be determined by a control. Speed of descent can be varied in the same way. He responds to brief sounds by a short climb but will climb to the top of the pole if the sound is prolonged. A second control adjusts the speed of descent but a sufficiently loud sound can override this descent and restart a climb. SAM is powered by batteries for portability or can be run off the mains.

Facts on toys

THE 7th edition of the ABC of Toys published by the Toy Libraries Association is the only consumer guide to toys in this country. It contains details of 650 widely available toys for all ages assessed for play value and developmental qualities under categories such as activity, communication, co-ordination, etc. Each toy has been rigorously playtested and recommended by the Toy Libraries Association panel of child specialists and advisers, and the needs of handicapped children are taken fully into account.

The ABC of Toys is available from the Toy Libraries Association, Seabrook House, Wyllyotts Manor, Darkes Lane, Potters Bar EN6 2HL. Price £5.

Highs and lows of hairdressing



THE Pressalit instantly adjustable hairdressers' shampoo basin unit is the latest addition to the Pressalit Rehab range and has been produced as a result of a demand from occupational therapists for hospitals, nursing homes and day centres.

It is designed to give a full range of operating heights for wheelchair access and individual standing requirements and is easily adjusted by the two locking handles without any need for changing the plumbing because of the flexible feed pipes and flexible waste outlet.

Further information from John Beaumont, Dansk Pressalit (UK), Ltd, Pressalit House, 25 Grove Promenade, Ilkley, West Yorkshire, LS29 8AF. Tel Ilkley (0943) 607651.

Yes, they all want to be green stamp millionaires

WHO wants to be a Green Shield millionaire? A stamp jackpot of one million Green Shield stamps with a purchasing power of £390 when used at any Argos showroom in the county is just one of the many prizes to be won in a new fund-raising lottery organised by Green Shield, the trading stamp firm in conjunction with the Dorset Spastics Society.

Winner of the first Green

Shield stamp draw was Mrs Valerie Kempton, mother of seven children. The draw was conducted by Marilyn Edwards, a resident of Edwards House, and the grown-up daughter of Mr and Mrs John Edwards who were founder-members of the Dorset Society which celebrates its 25th anniversary next year. Mr Edwards is the current Vice-President of the group.

First time winner of the major money prize of £1,000 was a 31-year-old butcher from Poole, Mr John Harrison.

A 25p ticket gives local people a 1 in 13 chance of winning either cash or stamps. The fund-raising target for the Dorset Society is £250,000, intended for a special care unit for severely handicapped children.

SOCIETY'S ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Our courageous children

Continued from Page 1

after listing a girl with spina bifida's many achievements despite being chairbound, a writer adds:

"She has met tragedy in her life with equal stoicism. A great friend, also a sufferer from spina bifida, died on the operating table earlier this year. She, herself, has had 13 operations and can never be sure that another will not be necessary..."

A father nominated his son, now 14, who at the age of three was in a car accident which left his brain irreparably damaged. His injuries were so terrible that the hospital did not expect him to survive. It took five years to learn to talk again, nine to

walk. "His courage is wonderful. At one time I wanted to give up and go. I thought of him and what he had been through, and his laughing most of the time. He hasn't given up so how could I?"

One eight-year-old girl born with massive birth defects that have required deep and repeated surgery brought forth this testimony: "I have often wished there was something I could do to help her but I'm afraid even specialists have had a struggle. Therefore to nominate her for this award is my way of doing something. She deserves it for bravery, courage and for being a happy child in spite of suffering. Not one of us says it would have been a blessing if she had died at birth. It was a

blessing she lived and enriched all our lives with her own."

These are just some of the heart-rending and deeply felt stories that the judges will have to sift through before deciding just who should receive the award. Never have the judges been faced with a harder and more awesome task. This year they are Lady Airey, widow of Airey Neave, MP, assassinated last year by a terrorist bomb, Dr Miriam Stoppard and Lewis Carter Jones, MP. Mr Colin Culmore, managing director of J. H. Dewhurst the butchers, who put up the prize money has been forced through business to miss the presentations. Judging in his place is Mr J. B. Whalley, a director of Dewhursts.

When every entry is a 'winner'...

FROM the moment the announcement of the Achievement Award is made to the moment the winner's name is given, Mrs Nina Heycock, who organises the award for the Society is at the centre of a tremendous amount of activity. To her come the nominations from every part of the country and this year the number has run into many hundreds.

It is a mammoth task, both exhausting and rewarding, to read through all the citations, some haltingly written on scraps of paper and others beautifully presented but all containing the same message that the nominee is really outstanding. Gradually the numbers are whittled down to manageable proportions, this year 44, and Mrs Heycock contacts all the families to be sure that they are still happy for their candidate's name to go forward. Then the four judges have the formidable task of making a preliminary judgement to

reach a short list of under 10, from the 44 they have been given.

Then comes the next phase of the planning that will eventually bring the finalists to the Society's headquarters at Park Crescent. Mrs Heycock contacts them to discover whether they need help with getting tickets, if accommodation for an overnight stay is required and whether the finalist has any particular problems to be coped with. Last year the business was made even more complicated by postal strikes and some finalists did not receive their tickets for the train journey until the day they had to set off.

As the six or seven finalists and their families sit down to lunch at the Society's Family Services and Assessment Centre in Fitzroy Square the four judges are sitting down to a working lunch to discuss the final merits of each candidate. It is a sensitive

Continued on Page 11

Bill takes the idea to Ulster

BILL Keown, the Ulster businessman who came second in the 1976 Special Achievement Award has now founded a similar award in the Province, in addition to raising £7,000 for the Northern Ireland Orthopaedic Council which is affiliated to the Society.

The Royal Ulster Constabulary has given a cup, to be known as the William Keown Achievement Award, which will be presented annually to a handicapped person who has by their own effort made progress in overcoming their disability whatever its cause. Mr Keown says the response to his appeal has been exceptional and already a committee of 20 has been formed to select the winner. The committee consists of both the disabled and those who helped Bill surmount his own particular problems.

He says: "I can never forget them because of their faith and hope that I should succeed eventually."

Mr Keown is a head of his own knitwear manufacturing and retail business, a magistrate, serving on area health boards, and he was awarded the MBE for his work.



He uses his skill to help others

IN spite of his own handicap Ted Castle puts in a full working week at Charlton Park School for handicapped children where he makes and converts special furniture and toy equipment for 11 schools in the area of the Inner London Education Authority.

Ted, now 42, was born a spastic and subsequently lost an eye in a work acci-

dent several years ago. He was the first ever severely handicapped person to be accepted as a student at the London College of Furniture, which has a special design unit catering for the problems of disability.

As well as producing one-off, purpose-built equipment for special schools, Ted has also undertaken special jobs for the Newcomen Centre at Guy's Hospital.

Speechless may find a voice

VERY soon the miracle breakthrough that thousands of handicapped people and their families in this country have dreamt of could become reality — the chance to speak for themselves.

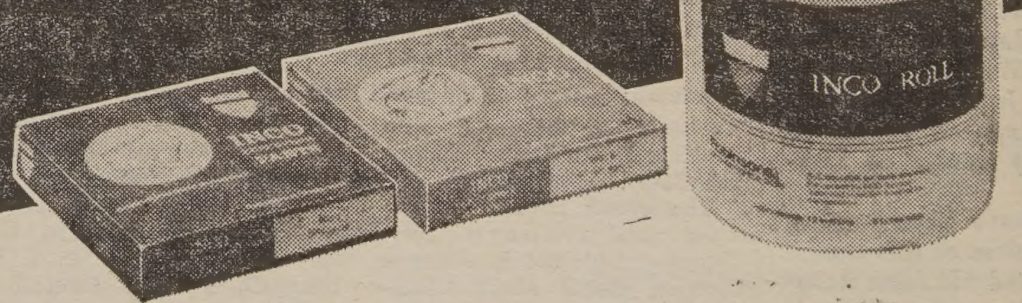
An American company has developed what it calls the Phonic Mirror Handivoice which actually talks, by means of an electronic voice synthesiser. There are two models, one lap-board style and the other hand-held, and they can produce virtually any word in the English language. They are pre-programmed with words, phrases and sounds and are lightweight, portable and operate on re-chargeable batteries.

Now an English firm is looking at the possibility of bringing the device across the Atlantic. At the moment they are still investigating, and cautiously warn that if they do decide to go ahead and import, the price will be in the region of between £2,000 and £2,500.

Further information about the Phonic Mirror Handivoice can be obtained from H. C. Electronics, Inc, 250 Camino Alto, Mill Valley, CA 94941, 415/383-4000.

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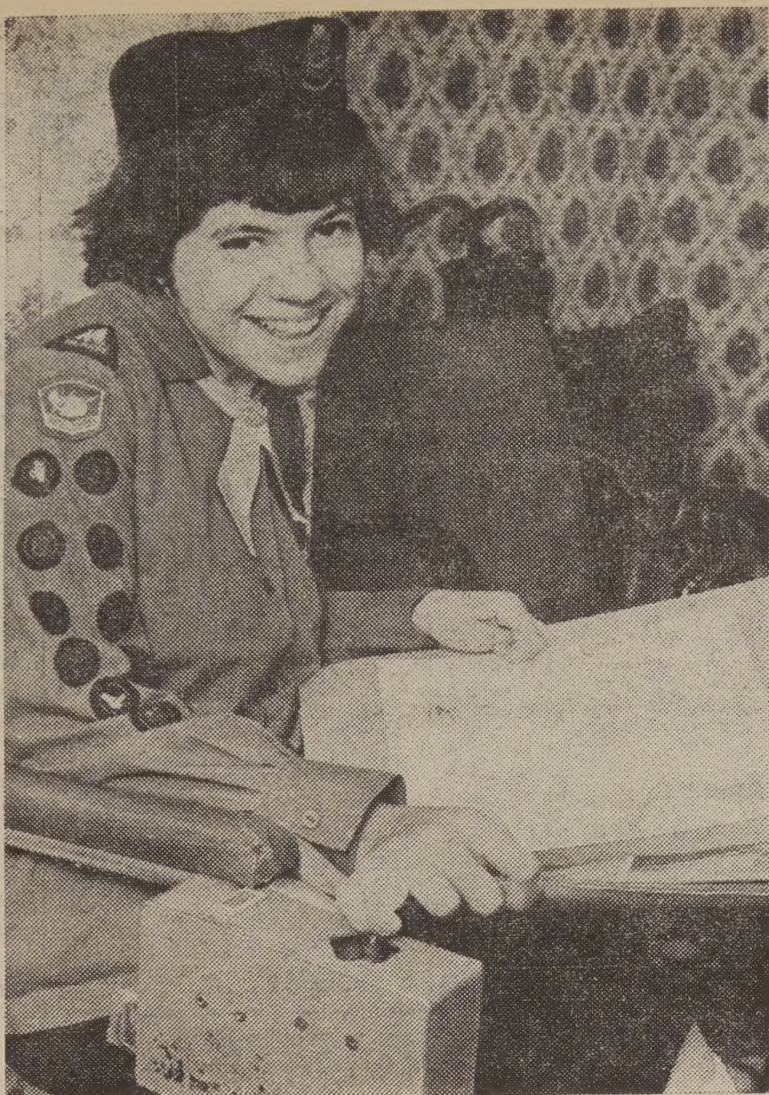
Mark — a puppet with a 'message'

"MARK" is a child-size puppet in a wheelchair who suffers from cerebral palsy. He's just one of the many characters in an American troupe of handicapped and non-handicapped puppets called "The Kids on the Block."

All the puppets in "The Kids on the Block" wear real children's clothes and shoes. As well as the spastic Mark, there is puppet "Mandy" who is deaf; "Renaldo" who is blind and "Ellen Jane" with Down's Syndrome.

The creator of "The Kids on the Block" is Barbara Aiello, a former teacher of handicapped children, who says her aim is to teach non-handicapped children how to develop positive relationships with their handicapped peers.

All the scripts of "The Kids on the Block" are vetted by disabled children, disabled adults and parents of disabled children.



FOR 26 years the First Hertfordshire Post Brownies, Guides and Rangers have done their best, but now 15-year-old Pamela Reynolds has gone one better and won the Queen's Guides badge, the first member of the guiding organisation for the physically handicapped to do so.

Pamela, who is also attached to the First Garston Guides, had to gain a number of badges to

qualify for the award. Helping a pensioner for five months was one project, studying Canada and India others, and finally organising and running her own camp at Tring.

Guiding is just one of her interests—as well as attending Hangers Wood School in Oxley, she is an avid horse-rider, stamp collector, swimmer and football fan—when it is her brother on the pitch.

Picture by West Herts and Watford Observer.

Decade of success for literary contest

1980 WILL mark the 10th year that The Spastics Society has held its annual literary contest, open to handicapped people of all ages from all over Great Britain.

During those 10 years the consistently high standard of entries from children as well as adults has more than proved that disability need be no bar to literary capability.

The poetry section has proved so popular that this year, for the first time, the poetry section has been extended to cover two age

groups. There will be a poetry section for schoolchildren up to 12 years of age, with a first prize of £10 and a second prize of £5. For teenagers and adults aged 13 and over there will be a first poetry prize of £20 and a second prize of £10. Any verse form may be used.

For prose entries there are three age categories: schoolchildren up to and including 11 years of age; adolescents aged 12-17; and adults of 18 and over. First and second prizes for schoolchildren are £10 and £5 respectively; for adolescents £20 and £10, and for adults £30 and £15.

In addition to these sec-

tions, a special prize will be awarded by the Director of The Spastics Society, Mr James Loring, for what he considers to be an outstanding contribution among the runners-up. Other runners-up will receive books autographed by the judges.

The rules of the literary contest allow for any competitor who cannot manage the actual typing or writing down of their entry to dictate their work.

Closing date for the literary contest is Saturday, April 5, and entry forms are available from: Mrs Nina Heycock, 27-33 Harrington Gardens, London SW7 4JT.

'Save a Baby' campaign on the road in Wales

THE Spastics Society's "Save a Baby" exhibition caravan has completed hundreds of campaigning miles in Wales for its first United Kingdom tour and in the words of Emlyn Davies, Wales' Senior Regional Officer:

"It has been an outstanding success."

At the start of the tour it was officially opened by Cardiff's Lord Mayor Coun Bella Brown, who admitted that like most people she had been unaware of how many problems there were associated with ante-natal care until the exhibition had revealed the true state of affairs. She promised her fullest support to the campaign and the whole "Care Before Birth" programme.

After a three-day stay in the city centre, the caravan took to the road in an intensive tour of factories, schools and health centres in Cardiff and South Glamorgan. The response was overwhelming, with so much interest generated that at one school alone 1,200 pupils passed through the caravan — a success which was to be repeated at other schools. It was one of the prime aims of the exhibition to alert school children to the need for ante-natal care, rubella injections, and good health.

Mr Davies paid tribute to Bob Goosey and his health education team in South Glamorgan, who worked hard to ensure the exhibition's success.

The 1979 Medical Seminar was another Welsh success story for the second year running, largely due, Mr Davies believes to the eminence of the guests invited to speak. Between 150 and 160 people crowded in to the lecture hall of Cardiff's National School of Medicine, designed to hold 120, to hear from Sir Douglas Black, president of the Royal College of Physicians, Dr Malcolm Chiswick,

Mr Arthur Wynn, Professor Harold Fox, Dr Joyce Chamberlain, Miss J. Fearn, Dr John Williams, Professor Peter Gray, Professor Bryan Hildard and Mr James Pearson, all distinguished in their various fields.

The film "Feeling Special" was featured at the Welsh annual general meeting and conference which was held the following day. Lord Parry agreed to continue as president, with Mr G. O. Williams elected again as chairman, and Mrs Helen Ainsworth and Mr Jim Andrews as vice-chairmen, and Mr Peter May, treasurer. Again a distinguished panel of speakers were present to address delegates.

Death of founder member

WE are sad to record the death of Mr Sam Chamberlain of Colwyn Bay.

In Wales and especially in his home town Sam, his wife Hilda, and their disabled daughter, are known very well.

Sam Chamberlain died on December 11, only three days after attending the Colwyn Bay group's spastics Christmas party. He was a founder member of the group, attending its first meeting 23 years ago, and had been a stalwart supporter ever since. He was his group's delegate to the Wales Regional Committee until last year when he had to resign due to ill health.

The Wales Region and the Colwyn Bay group will miss Sam Chamberlain's presence very much.

Emlyn Davies

Lottery a 'winner' for them

MONEY from Birmingham's civic lottery has provided a £10,000 specially converted ambulance for the Midlands Spastics Association.

The Lord Mayor of Birmingham, Councillor George Canning, has handed over the 11-seat Ford Transit, equipped with a lift for wheelchairs and adaptable seating which will be used for outings and holidays and also to take spastic people to their day centre at Harborne.

"We have been longing for a vehicle of this kind," commented Mr John Bottison, the Association's secretary

Edinburgh date for champion teams

A 12-STRONG team of handicapped young men and women journeyed from England to Edinburgh to compete against a team from Scotland for the new Team Championship Trophy. They were: Norman Burns, Gateshead (captain); Malcolm Dowson, Newcastle; Chris Liddle, Co Durham; Bob Bebbington, Manchester; Tony Griffin, Bolton; David Moore, Rainham; Andy Coleman, Forncett St Peter; Kevin Reed, Woking; Pat Wilson, Falmouth; Mary Goddard, Taunton; Sue Stevenson, New Malden; Sarah Fuller, Hampton Court.

The events covered by the team were archery, rifle-shooting, table tennis, athletics (javelin, discus, shot), wheelchair relay, running relay, swimming, water hand-ball,

wheelchair hockey, wheelchair basketball and seven-a-side football. England won all the wheelchair events with ease, and were equally impressive in the athletic competition. In all the other sections, the competition was much harder, as the results show: Archery, England 1, Scotland 1; seven-a-side football, England 7, Scotland 6; rifle shooting, England 1, Scotland 1; ladies relay, England 1st, Scotland 2nd; men's relay, Scotland 1st, England 2nd; water hand-ball, Scotland 6, England 4.

The group was accommodated at the Trinity Centre in Edinburgh, and the competition took place at the Dunfermline PE College.

"It is hoped that a return match can be arranged for July 1980," says Mr A. T. S. Edwards, Physical Education Adviser to The Spastics Society.



THE keenness and adaptability which 21-year-old Judith Shacklady from Colwyn Bay has shown in her new job has so impressed her employers that assistant factory manager Mr Tony Lewis has said he is determined to take on more employees with physical disabilities.

The firm, Astbury House of Mochdre, who make light fittings, reckoned it would take six weeks to train Judith as a machinist. In view of her efficiency, however, the training period was reduced to a month.

But it's not only at work that Judith is a winner. She spends her leisure time at the Endeavour Club of Colwyn Bay, and recently she represented Wales in the Handicapped Olympics at Stoke Mandeville where she was awarded a gold medal for the wheelchair slalom.

Picture by Liverpool Daily Post & Echo

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SN Jan

Who will make this new year resolution?

MAY I suggest a New Year resolution for all engaged in charity work, either as paid staff or volunteers? Let all resolve to end stupid sponsored events, be they walks, swims, jumps, knits, hush-ins, dive-ins . . . or whatever crazy and quite useless activity is currently in vogue.

I am sure I am not the only member of the public bored with reading about yet another sponsored "marathon," or annoyed by

Pearlies in Germany

I WOULD like the many readers of Spastics News to know of the London Pearlies' recent visit to RAF Bruggen and Rhiendahlen here in West Germany on a fund raising trip.

With them they brought Hobbs Carts which were given to Richard Underwood, Lee Jane Roberts, and St Francis' Playschool for handicapped children, and RAF Hospital, Wegberg children's ward.

My son Christopher was in RAF Wegberg when the Pearlies visited the children's ward and he was also given a Hobb Cart. Thanks to them for a lovely visit.

Mrs E. Wade,
1 Sqdn,
16 SGL Regt,
BFPO 40.

Christy's story

NEEDLESS to say we were very satisfied with Liz Cook's handling of Christy's story in Spastics News. He said that as she told it in such a matter of fact way, he feels that there will be no need for people to pity him — pity is not one of his favourite words!

There has been a terrible demand for Spastics News and now I have only two copies left, one of which I have promised to send to a nun working in the slums of Santiago who has discovered a spastic boy in his 20s similar in every way to Christy, and one to a contemplative nun in an enclosed order in Dublin. Everyone has been asking for copies.

Bernadette Nolan,
Clontarf,
Dublin,
Eire.

● Mrs Nolan is the remarkable mother of a truly amazing son, Christy, whose story was featured in two recent issues of Spastics News. It was through the Society's literary award that Christy's genius as a writer was first recognised, and since then a major feature about him has appeared in the Sunday Times and Mrs Nolan has talked on the radio about his work.



International year of the jargon?

I HAVE just had a horrible shock! Why? I have just heard that next year has been designated by the United Nations as "The International Year for Disabled Persons 1981."

It is not the concept I object to — but that dreadful name! Try and say it aloud! Trips easily off the tongue doesn't it? Fires you with enthusiasm doesn't it?

Surely this awful name for what could be a wonderful year was thought up by a crazed social worker who had swallowed the bureaucratic jargon book? Come off it, UN, and think again! If the year is to have any impact it must have a title which will catch the imagination of the world. The present name has all the excitement of cold, left-over cabbage.

Miss T.A.
(name and address supplied),
London, N.

● I fully agree, Miss T.A.,

Foreign greeting

BEST wishes for a prosperous New Year in solving problems of cerebral palsied people in England, which I get acquainted with through Spastics News.

Ivancica Planic, MA,
Kupska 62a,
Zagreb,
Yugoslavia.

writing that wretched name is almost as difficult as saying it. As this is an international event I tried it in other languages, and I think it sounds — and looks — just as bad as in English. As for those "persons" in the title . . . aren't "persons" people any more? — Editor.

What a draw!

ONE of the busiest stalls at the Christmas fair organised by the Friends of Beaumont College was the tombola. Also on sale at the fair were handicrafts made by the students at Beaumont, a further education centre run by The Spastics Society, and altogether the sum of £700 was raised.

Christine at Crossroads

CHRISTINE Bates, a 15-year-old spastic teenager from Smethwick, is to pay a visit to the famous Crossroads Motel to meet Noel Gordon and the rest of the cast from her favourite TV serial.

The visit to the ATV studios cost Christine's mother, Mrs Brenda Bates, £26 which she bid in a charity auction. Most expensive visit won in the auction was the £60 paid for a visit to the South of England stables of Red Rum, three times winner of the Grand National.

Award entries

Continued from Page 9

and delicate task because the feeling is every year that they should ALL win and this year the task is even harder. "People send in photographs, certificates and independent testimonies to back up what they are saying," Mrs Heycock explained. "Some cases are very tragic but they may have had a lot done for them coped with some less handicapped going out and achieving something on their own."

"You know whoever is chosen means discarding perhaps a dozen others who equally deserved to win. One mother wrote and said 'I shouldn't keep on about my son but it is marvellous to unburden my heart to someone about how much he means to us all'."

And it is comments like this that makes Mrs Heycock's hard work in the months leading up to the chairman, Mr Belson's announcement of the winner on January 30 so worthwhile.

Top seller

EILEEN Reddington, a spastic girl from Leeds, who is a resident of Cliff Dene Hostel, succeeded in selling a thousand raffle tickets, nearly half the total number printed, and worth £250 towards the Residents' Amenities Fund.

'Wonderful' recital

WHEN I took our friend Moura Lymphany, the world famous pianist, to visit our Churchtown Farm Field Studies Centre at Lanlivery, Cornwall, she was so impressed that she insisted on giving us a concert on the Centre's behalf. Recently she gave a wonderful recital in Truro Cathedral which produced £500 for our Friends of Churchtown Farm Committee, of which I am the president. Now she has promised me another concert for the centre next year.

Philip Varcoe,
Lan-escot,
Par,
Cornwall.

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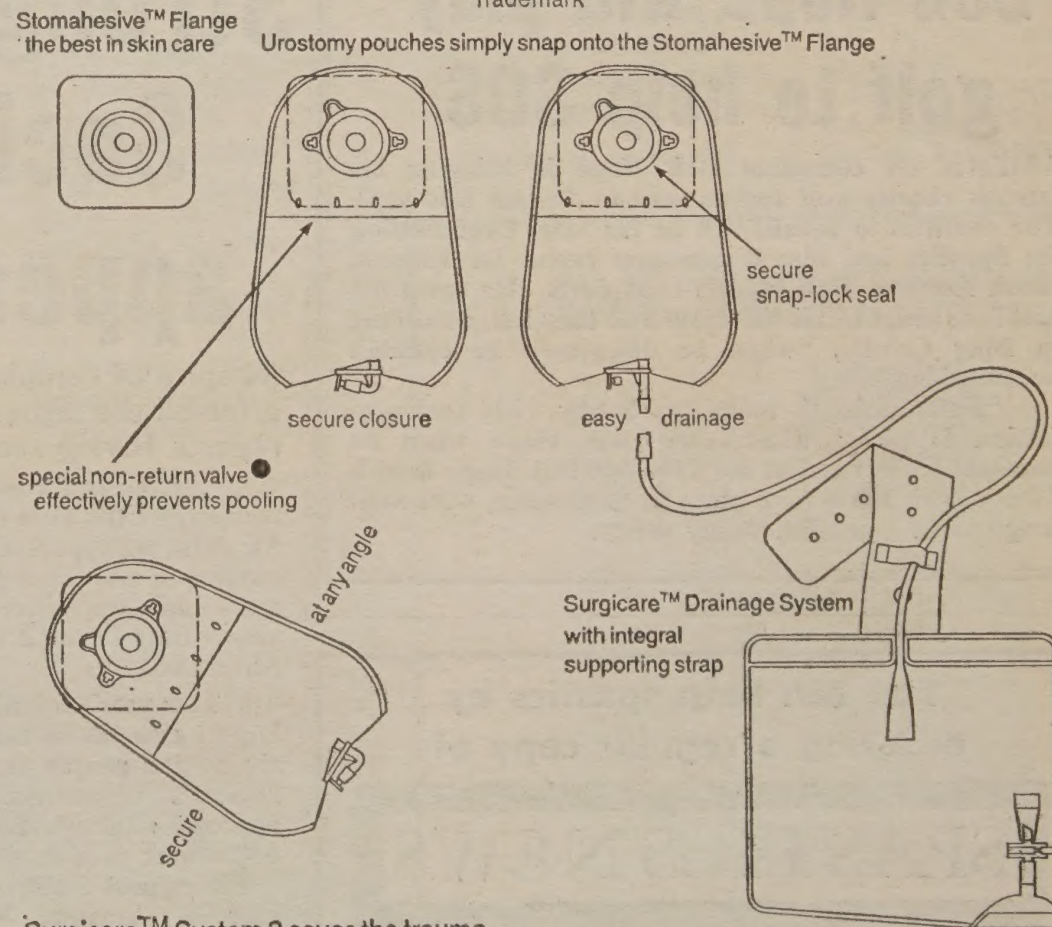
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Super saleswoman of Spastics Shops

New incentives bring booming profits



● **SUPERSALESWOMAN** Mrs Jean Douglas, manageress of the Spastics shop in Kilburn High Road, London, is the first manageress to take part in a presentation ceremony in connection with the sales commission scheme. Mrs Douglas earned the highest commission of all the sales force for the trading quarter ending September 1979, and Mr Michael Brophy, The Society's Director of Fundraising, is seen here handing Mrs Douglas her cheque worth £220. A bouquet of flowers is an additional "Thank you."



HIGH standard merchandise, attractively displayed and clearly labelled is the key to successful profits. A system of date coded price tags enables stock to be rotated at regular intervals which encourages customers to pay frequent visits.

AT the first cheque presentation ceremony to be held in connection with the sales commission scheme for manageresses of Spastics Shops, the lucky recipient was supersaleswoman Mrs Jean Douglas, manageress of the Spastics Shop in Kilburn High Road, London. She earned herself the highest commission for the last trading quarter of all the sales force in the 105 shops belonging to The Spastics Society.

The presentation was at the Kilburn shop when Mr Michael Brophy, Director of Fundraising, presented Mrs Douglas with a cheque for £220 as well as an accompanying bouquet of flowers.

As well as a new sales commission scheme, the shop manageresses, who are now salaried employees, also have the back-up of their area shop supervisors. All the manageresses have commented on how beneficial they feel the visits paid by

the area supervisors have been.

A new policy to broaden sales appeal includes a determined effort to increase the supply of goods such as seconds, rejects, and end-of-lines supplied at nominal cost by manufacturers.

The surplus profit made by the shops for distribution among the groups is estimated at £135,000 for the first half of 1979, compared with £38,000 at the same point the previous year.



● **PASSERS-BY** in London's Kilburn High Road find it hard to resist the eye appeal of the attractively dressed window belonging to the Spastics shop run by Mrs Douglas.

Bob Hope will play golf to help SOS

AMERICAN comedian Bob Hope is bringing his famous charity golf tournament to Britain this year. The charities to benefit will be the Stars Organisation for Spastics and also a new arts centre for Eltham, South London, Bob Hope's birthplace. He spent the first four years of his life there and only left, according to Bing Crosby, "when he discovered he couldn't become king."

"Entertaining is really my hobby. My real profession is golf," wisecracked Bob Hope when he announced the news of the £100,000 Bob Hope British Classic which will take place in September, with Sunningdale as a possible likely venue.

Strong competition—but Society's Christmas appeal attracts public

IN spite of complaints from some charities that the Cambodian Appeal had affected the response to their own Christmas appeals, The Spastics Society reports having received even more sacks of mail than usual.

"At the last count there were 97 sacks full of mail compared with 72 at the same time last year," commented Mr John Rowe, Head of Appeals Projects. "Mail is still coming in and the Appeal is holding up very well against some stiff competition, particularly in view of all the television time devoted to the refugees in Cambodia," said Mr Rowe.

This year's Spastics Society Christmas Appeal was the largest ever direct mail appeal and was sent out to over six million people in the United Kingdom, including the Society's supporters. Experience shows that postal appeals, although more expensive than house-to-house collections, produce double the response.

The appeal featured 5½-year-old Amanda Smith, who weighed only 2lb 3oz at birth and who was given a 50/50 chance of survival. Amanda is now walking unaided, an accomplishment of the past year, and she is one of the 55 children attending The Spastics Society's Trengweth School in Plymouth.

The Christmas Appeal letter was sent to every school in the country with a good response from the children.

Individual donations are certainly keeping up with inflation, according to Mr John Rowe who says that the £100 donation seems to be on the increase. Sizeable donations were received from more than one Arab embassy.

Supporting the Christmas Appeal with its target of £883,000 was an advertising campaign.

In memory of Ella

A SILVER cup in memory of Mrs Ella Draper, who was for over seven years cook/manageress at the Society's headquarters in Park Crescent, London, has been given to Craig y Parc School. Mrs Draper died on February 28, 1979.

The cup, inscribed "The Ella Draper Cup," was presented to Craig y Parc on

December 10 by Mrs Joyce Smith, a Vice-Chairman of The Spastics Society. The cup will be awarded annually to the child who has made the most effort throughout the year. The first winner was 10-year-old Jason Olding from Caerphilly. He received the cup from Mr Glyn Draper, the late Mrs Draper's son.

Mystery

Continued from Page 1

handwriting indicates that he or she is very old, goes on to explain: "Everyone wants more help now Christmas is near to make them happy. I do feel sorry for them. Those dear people always in pain, and can't do anything for their self. I've been saving up a lot to get that money so please, kindly sir, let me know if you get it safe."

Sadly, there is no way of letting the generous donor know that the money did arrive safely for the sender asked for a few words of acknowledgement to be put on the outside of the Daily Mirror or Sun. The letter repeats the plea several times explaining that these are the only papers the writer gets every day.

Unfortunately, the Daily Mirror and the Sun are inundated with such requests and feel they cannot help out. Unless the anonymous donor reads this story and contacts the Society, his or her generosity is destined to go unacknowledged.

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